

Salt Lake City

8-17-1891.

Dear Sir; -

Your letter received some time ago has remained unanswered because of my absence on a geological and botanical trip for three months. I will try to send you specimens of my new species in the fall or winter. I felt sure of my *Stanleyas* in 1881 but I deferred to Dr. Gray when he said he couldn't see the distinctions on which I founded my species, but last year I went over the whole ground again with much more material and came to the same conclusion. This year I have studied thousands of specimens of *S. pinnatifida* growing and never saw the distinctions fail so I will defer to no man's judgment. There is another *Stanleya* in eastern Utah Nevada 6000 to 7000 feet altitude that is biennial and a short lived perennial, I do not recall seeing it over three or four years old. It is nearest to *viridiflora* but the flowers are not greenish yellow nor are the stems unbranched. There is a peculiarity in the stem sufficient to make it a

new species, and unless I can find the same characters in viridiflora I shall call it S. alata. Can you give me any light? I have not yet seen S. viridiflora.

I have also studied your Cercocarpus intricatus and my C. ledifolius var. intricatus and then I think I can say the last word on the subject. I have found abundant transitions on all the mountains where both ^{ledifolius and the var.} occur from the Wasatch to the East Humboldt. ledifolius is a high altitude plant, while the other is a low altitude plant but runs up into the range of the former and overlaps it at its lower range. The pubescence is of no account as a character and the variations in the leaves and flowers ^{and fruit} are such that I fear C. ~~par~~ breviflorus must drop into it as a form as well as my C. Arizonicus. I am not prepared to say that I believe it but I fear this will be the conclusion. If intricatus is retained as a species, then the other two will have still greater right, for they never show transition to ledifolius because they do not grow where it is found. I have made a ^{special} study of this plant and the flowers of Astragalus in which last some important characters have been overlooked.

Well, I have written more than I intended.

Very truly yours,

Maxon E. Jones